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A Suggestive Argument in Favor of

PREPAREDNESS

The present session of congress will be the most important in its scope since the civil war.

Millions will be appropriated for defense. The traditional policies of the government will probably be revolutionized.

The Army and Navy

will have more money at their disposal during the next few years than ever before during time of peace.

Our diplomatic relations with some of the countries at war may be suspended at any time. War may possibly follow such action on our part.

Peace May Be Declared

during the new year between the countries now at war, and it is assumed that the United States will become the chief arbitrator, if it is able to remain neutral until such time.

Mexico

is in a reconstructive period and continues to make history of the most pitiful type.

The National Conventions Will Be Held in June

This is presidential year. President Wilson will probably be endorsed again by the Democrats and be renominated. Who the Republican candidate will be is yet a matter of speculation. These are only a few of the big things the leading newspapers of the country will tell about. In the meantime all the news of interest to the home and to women and children is not to be neglected.

Everybody Should Be Prepared

to keep posted on these all-important events and no American citizen should remain in ignorance of what is going on.

The Indianapolis News

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has every existing facility for gathering news. It is a client of the two great press associations, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS and THE UNITED PRESS, which cover every part of the globe.

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ENGLAND'S SACRED BEAST.

Unwritten Law Against Shooting Ever-Hen Eating Foxes.

"Down in the country the other day there was a village sensation in which I was called upon to adjudicate for the farmers assembled in the parlor of the only village inn," writes the London correspondent of Town and Country. "One of their number had shot a fox which had prowled about among the fowls for so many nights that fowl keeping was becoming a risky business."

"The ordinary farmer does not mind losing an occasional hen, but reynard is a greedy beast and kills for the mere pleasure of the thing, and the hunt does not always pay up promptly. So here was a fine point in sporting etiquette to be settled. The farmer had shot a fox. He did not deny it. In fact, he preferred to tell his chest with pride, as if in defiance of all the unwritten laws of British sport."

"Now, custom from time immemorial has decreed that the fox shall be as safe from gun and trap as if he were sacred. He belongs to the hounds and must be allowed to roam through the covers and farmyards at will, devouring what may happen in his way. Custom, too, demands that the hunt shall pay the damages. The hunt generally pays, though in innumerable cases the secretary is well aware that he is being swindled."

"But this particular farmer said he had hunted for many years himself and had never made a claim for lost hens. A year or two ago, however, a fox had paid a nocturnal visit to his fowl yard and had played havoc with the feathered denizens. A night or two after it happened again. A third time the fox came around and made a most deplorable mess of a lot of fine Wyandottes and some expensive Buff Orpingtons."

"Then the farmer wrote to the hunt secretary and asked for damages. The reply was that the claim would be attended to shortly, and at Christmas the settlement came in the form of a ham. Thereupon the farmer declared war on all foxes and killed them ruthlessly. And this was the point which puzzled the farmers on Saturday night."

"Jim Crawford shot a fox last year," said one of the men, "and no good has come to him since. It ain't lucky and it ain't sportsmanlike. Let 'em kill your hens. That's what they are there for, and if one hunt secretary is mean there are a hundred who are generous."

"There you have it. Sport is sport and its rules are adamant. It must, however, be put to the credit of British hunt clubs that they spend millions of pounds a year in England, Wales and Ireland for the upkeep of the sport."

"Think of the hunters that are bred and sold annually, the packs of hounds, the huntsmen, the stable people, the dozens of hangers on 'who make a living out of it! Without the hounds certain districts of England would be depopulated. Leicestershire and the midland counties would be almost impoverished if a law were suddenly put in force to make an end to the rich man's pastime. Country houses in nonhunting districts may be had at most for the price of a cottage in Leicestershire, whereas in the Quorn and Pitchley country a country house is as expensive, if not more so, than a London mansion. Instead of diminishing, hunting has grown in popular favor."

The Chinese.

The Chinese invented printing; they invented gunpowder; they invented the mariner's compass.

The farmers of China were the first to hatch eggs by means of incubators, and the fishermen of China were the first to hatch fish spawn artificially. Arterian vessels are of Chinese origin.

The penal code of China is thousands of years old, and thousands of years old is the Chinese civil service examination that western civilization has at last adopted.

When George Washington's ancestors wandered in the wet, cold woods of Britain, their naked and shivering chests painted blue, the Chinaman, dressed in splendid silks, lounged in a palace, on a chair of carved teakwood and marble, reading philosophy and drinking from cups of painted porcelain tea of exquisite flavor.

A BUDDING GENIUS.

Ambitions and Hard Work of the Boy Saint Gaudens.

Immediately on being apprenticed to Avet I applied for admission to the drawing school of the Cooper institute, and every evening after my return from work at 6 o'clock and a hasty tea I went down there, where my artistic education began.

I can recall there the kindly impression produced on me by Abram S. Hewitt as he glanced at me during some function. Father at that time was making shoes for the Cooper family, and I suppose that that is why he looked at me. The feeling of profound gratitude for the help which I have had from that institution abides with me to this day.

It was during the next two or three years that my first aspirations and ambitions made themselves felt. I became a terrific worker, toiling every night until 11 o'clock after the Cooper institute was over, in the conviction that in me another heaven-born genius had been given to the world.

I can recall thinking in public conveyances that if the men standing on the platform around me could realize how great a genius was rubbing elbows with them in the quiet looking boy by their side they would be profoundly impressed. As a result, I was so exhausted by the confining work of cameo cutting by day and by drawing at night that in the morning I was literally dragged out of bed by mother, pushed over to the washstand, where I gave myself a cat's lick somehow or other, driven to the seat at the table, administered my breakfast, which consisted of tea and large quantities of the long French loaves of bread with butter, and tumbled downstairs, out into the street, where I awoke—"Reminiscences of Augustus Saint Gaudens" in Century.

SPANISH ETIQUETTE.

Politeness to Servants and Even the Street Beggars.

From what we saw and from what happened to us I made up a page of Spanish etiquette. It is probably not correct, but I offer it as the result of our experiences. Other people may have had different impressions. If you are of the female sex never wear a short skirt, a sailor or English walking hat unless you are willing to have people stare at you and sometimes call after you. If you have red hair dye it or be prepared to be saluted as "Rubia." Never bow to a man unless he lifts his hat first. If you are a man you may dress as an Englishman, an operatic tenor or a chorus singer from Carmen without exciting remark. Never wear glasses. If you are blind take a dog on a string. When you sit down at the table or arise always bow and say, "Buenas." This is imperative. You may jostle people without apology, but never speak to any one without saying "your grace," be he noble, friend or beggar. "Will your grace do me the favor to bring me my coffee at 9 o'clock tomorrow?" would strike an American bellboy with dismay. But it is the literal translation of the Spanish request. Never tell a beggar to clear out, but say that you have left your purse at home and that you will remember him tomorrow or gently murmur that God will reward him, whereat he will smile, thank you and depart. These same beggars, who spring up on every side, seem to have a code of etiquette we could not fathom. After two or three days there were a few who begged only from me, two or three others who begged Jean. Evidently we were understood to be the patrons of certain beggars who out of a crowd of mendicants were the only ones to approach us who would take their dole with thanks or if we said "tomorrow" would smilingly back away at once.

A trip into Spain ought to mean more than sketches of life as we saw it in a single city. Yet it was our pleasure to linger on in Madrid, with the exception of three days spent in Toledo and the Escorial, for the whole of our two months' holiday, and to return direct to Paris without seeing any of the southern country, so beloved by other tourists. So can any one wonder that to us Spain means Madrid, the city of marvelous contrasts?—E. C. Allen in Outline.

A Sure Investment!

You have never yet made an investment

Where you didn't expect to win,

But you sometime have found to your sorrow

You've beautifully taken in.

You may have laid down your good money!

For a brick which you found wasn't gold,

Or met the Bohemian oats swindler,

When you, with your oats, have been sold.

If asked by a friend to play poker,

You'd experience, no doubt quite a shock;

Then never join hands with a fellow

Who makes money by watering stock.

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In which you can't possibly lose,

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It is difficult to believe that the sanctimonious expression on Lionel Barrymore's face, and his perfectly good minister's coat, really are only a disguise for a desperate highwayman. But such, alas, is the case. In "A Yellow Streak," the big five-act Metro feature picture produced by the Columbia Pictures Corporation, Mr. Barrymore has a remarkable dual role. It is the first time, on either the spoken stage or the screen, where this versatile member of the wonderful Barrymore family has had a part which gives him the opportunity to run the gamut of human emotions, from tragedy to comedy, and back again. Pretty and vivacious Irene Howley is featured with Mr. Barrymore in this elaborate production.